

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

May 25, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

SIXTH SUNDAY in EASTER



I leave with you;



John 14:27, NRSV

My *Peace*
I give to you.

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

EASTER ACCLAMATION

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.
- C** Amen.

- P** Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

- C** make us one as you are one.

- P** We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

- C** make us one as you are one.

- P** We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

- C** make us one as you are one.

- P** Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that each day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus,
the Crucified and Risen One.

- C** Amen.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 All glory be to God on high,
who has the world befriended;
to us no harm shall now come nigh,
the strife at last is ended.
God shows goodwill to one and all,
and peace when troubled sinners call.
Thank God for grace and mercy!</p> | <p>3 Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son
of God, creation's author,
redeemer of your wand'ring ones,
and source of all true pleasure;
O Lamb of God, O Lord divine,
conform our lives to your design,
and on us all have mercy.</p> |
| <p>2 O Father, for your lordship true
we give you praise and honor;
we worship you; we trust in you;
we give you thanks forever.
Your will is perfect, and your might
relentlessly confirms the right;
your lordship is our blessing.</p> | <p>4 O Holy Spirit, perfect gift,
who brings us consolation:
to men and women saved by Christ
assure your inspiration.
Through sickness, need, and bitter death,
grant us your warm, life-giving breath;
our lives are in your keeping. Amen.</p> |

Text: Nikoalus Decius, 1485-1550; tr. composite

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE


This is the Feast

Refrain
Assisting minister




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.


All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Bountiful God,
- ☐ you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Acts 16:9-15

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 532

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.”¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis,¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67 *(read responsively)*

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God’s face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John’s vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God’s past actions. Yet in this new city, God’s presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

And in the spirit one of the angels carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the

Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

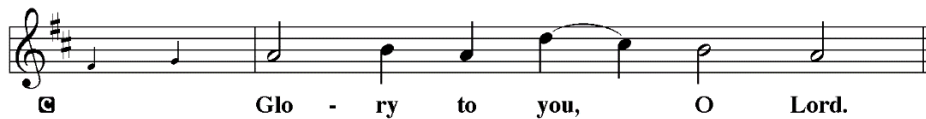
C Thanks be to God.

(rise in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.



HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus’ followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

Jesus answered Judas (not Iscariot), “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon, or follow Ms. Boe upstairs for an activity in the Sunday School room.

SERMON

Pastor Hall

(rise in body or spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God of Every Nation

ELW 713 vs. 1, 2, 4

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 O God of ev'ry nation,
of ev'ry race and land,
redeem your whole creation
with your almighty hand;
where hate and fear divide us
and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us
and heal our strife-torn world.</p> | <p>2 From search for wealth and power
and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower
destruction through the night,
from pride of race and station
and blindness to your way,
deliver ev'ry nation,
eternal God, we pray.</p> |
| <p>4 Keep bright in us the vision
of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division
give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious
when truth and love shall reign,
and Christ shall rule victorious
o'er all the world's domain.</p> | |

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

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THE NICENE CREED

- ☩ We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

Sympathy: to the family and friends of Riley Hoven

Prayers this week: Glenn Lindgren (father of Tarna Kidder)

On-going Care: Sharon Ambler, Cheri Biggs, John Bodnar, Don Burton, Betty Callies, Mike Cswercko, Marilyn Dichsen, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Kathy Englert, Tracey Gehringer, Dale Grundman, Jessica Hannon, Julie Hoogestraat, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Julie Knapp, Jack & Marie Kubat, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Jane Meyer, Nita Mueller, Linda Peltz, Kathy Preininger, Dan & Ginny Rath, David Samaria, Joyce Wachal, Gary Westerman, Allyson White, Deb Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Wyatt Johnson, grandson of Ken and Linda Johnson; Tyler Johnston, son of Robert and Michelle Johnston, Daniel Milstead, nephew of Darlene Anderson; Cody Ray, grandson of Betty Callies; Dannika Rees, daughter of Eric and Toby Rees; Joel Woosley, son of Debbie Woosley, nephew of Steph Stephens

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Katie Larson, Colombia; Rev. Bridget Gautieri, Wittenburg Center, Germany; Rev. Robert & Kathy Moore, Leipzig, Germany; and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators; our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin, as they assist refugees from the war in Ukraine

Other Prayers: *Seminarians* – Joseph Daffer, James Holzer, Giselle Loucks

THE PEACE IS SHARED

- ☐ The peace of Christ be with you always.
- ☑ And also with you.

MEAL

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. You may use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

How Great Thou Art

adapt. by Stuart K. Hine
Janet Diggins, vocalist

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

ELW 658 vs. 1-3

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ Risen One,
- ☑ you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

10

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

This musical score is for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

PREFACE

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

This musical score is for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The melody is more complex than the first hymn, with some triplets and longer note values. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
... With this bread and cup ... we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

- P** O God of resurrection and new life: . . .
. . . Grace our table with your presence.
- C** Come, Holy Spirit.
- P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread ...
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- C** Come, Holy Spirit.
- P** With your holy ones ... we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

- C** Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** Come and receive the gift of new life.
- C** We come to the table of grace.

(sit)

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free bread is available upon request.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.</p> | <p>3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that, joined by faith with your great heart,
become love's open doors.
We are your body, risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed.</p> |
| <p>2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.</p> | <p>4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!</p> |

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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You Servants of God

ELW 825

- 1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!**
- 2 Ascended on high, almighty to save,
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!**
- 3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**
- 4 Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Living One,

C in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The triune God,

who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

ELW 645

**1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ, our head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever
and our confidence alone.**

**2 To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your lovingkindness,
hear your people as they pray;
and your fullest benediction
shed within these walls today.**

**3 Here bestow on all your servants
what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever
with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.**

**4 Praise and honor to the Father,
praise and honor to the Son,
praise and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory
while unending ages run!**

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

✠ ✠ ✠

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KOUNTZE STAFF

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Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
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Danielle Fleming	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Kayla Slaight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director
Toby Rees	Director of Kountze Commons



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

**2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761**

**Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org**

May 24 & 25 2025

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a “City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry” and have been worshiping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for over 165 years. If you are new to Kountze Memorial, we invite you to visit the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.

Holy Communion

All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table. Children or anyone who does not commune will receive a blessing. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (for health or other reasons) have communed fully. Our form of distribution is Intinction, meaning you will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip it into the wine.

Children in Worship

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's Bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a room just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.

Nursery

Our nursery is available from 8:45 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it.

Attendance Cards

All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plates located by the doors in the Nave.

E-news & Social Media

If you would like to receive our weekly e-news and monthly e-newsletter, add your e-mail address to the attendance card in your bulletin.

Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices

Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

Scan to Give Online



Thank you
for
supporting
the
ministries
of Kountze Memorial
Lutheran Church.

Connect with Pr. Lucy

Schedule a time
to meet with Pas-
tor Lucy by fol-
lowing the link or
QR Code. [https://
calendly.com/pastor-
lucy/45min](https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min)



Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Pam & Bob Johnson in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary; given by Doug & Judy Heim in memory of their daughter, Stacie Heim Olson

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God given by Tracey Gehringer & Tom Steffen in memory of Arnold & LeClare Steffen and Leo Gardnier

Children's Sermon

9:15 AM

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children in grades Preschool-5th grade may join Kristin Boe for a children's sermon in the Upper Rooms. All the children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

Kountze Café Lite

9:30—11:00 AM

Free-will Offering

Through Labor Day weekend, we will be serving a lighter fare for breakfast. If you would like to help with breakfast, even just for a Sunday or two, please contact Sherri Labeledz.

Adult Forum

Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall for a lite breakfast and then stay for Adult Forum.

May 25: Fellowship (Memorial Day Weekend)

June 1: Fellowship (Synod Assembly)

This Week at Kountze Memorial

May 25 Sunday

Easter 6
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite -
Breakfast
10:10 AM Adult Forum

May 26 Monday

Memorial Day (Observed)
OFFICE CLOSED
No Pantry

May 27 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3

May 28 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

May 29 Thursday

Ascension of Our Lord
9:00 AM Good News
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:30 PM Ascension of Our Lord
Worship Service @ Kountze

May 30 Friday

May 30 - Jun 1 Synod Assembly
5:00 PM Pantry

May 31 Saturday

Homebound Communion
5:00 PM Worship

June 1 Sunday

Easter 7
Homebound Communion
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite -
Breakfast
10:10 AM Adult Forum
6:00 PM Cantare! Omaha Concert
at Kountze Memorial

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Ascension Day Liturgy

Thursday, May 29

6:30 PM

Held at Kountze Memorial

Kountze Memorial will continue its tradition of celebrating the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord with Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. This year, we will be hosting the liturgy. Please mark your calendars for this festive Eucharist and invite a friend! Everyone is welcome. **If you would be willing to be an Usher for the evening**, please contact Jim Smejkal (jim@kmlchurch.org) or call the church office.

Cantare! Omaha Concert

Welcome Summer!

Held at Kountze Memorial

Sunday, June 1

6:00 PM

Join Cantare!, Omaha's premier Renaissance Vocal Ensemble for their annual spring fundraiser. Cantare! presents a 40-minute concert, followed by a light hearted, delectable hors d'oeuvres & dessert reception & silent auction serenaded by Cantare!. New repertoire of Madrigals, motets, Sea Shanties and more! Proceeds support outreach programs, to bring Renaissance music to area residents in elder care & veterans' communities, and their development program for High School singers. Come for the music, contribute to support enriching the community! Suggested donation \$50 at the door or online.



Cantare!

KMLC Book Group

Sunday, June 8 - *Broken Harbor* by Tana French

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

There's still time to read the book and join us for great conversation at this month's Book Group! Whether you've read every page or just started, all are welcome.

Youth Summer Kick-Off Event

Grade 7 and Up

Sunday, June 8

5-8 PM

Link/Courtyard

Come and join us for a time of fellowship & fun to kick-off the summer. We'll have hotdogs & s'mores around the firepit, games, and a chance to hang out and get to know other Kountze Memorial young people. Friends are welcome! Open to youth going into 7th grade and up, including recent high school graduates. You may sign up at the Welcome Desk or by calling or emailing the church office. Contact Pastor Lucy at lucy@klmchurch.org with any questions.

KMLC Camp Week

Camp Carol Joy Holling

June 15-20

Join your Kountze friends at Camp Carol Joy Holling. Spend the week making new friends, spending time in nature, and growing in faith through song, lessons, and testimonies. To check on available dates use the QR code or the link below.

<http://NLOM.org/caroljoyholling/register>



CJH

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

Summer Service Days

2025/26 7th, 8th & 9th Graders

Fridays, June 20 - August 8 (closed on July 4)

8 AM - 4 PM

This summer, students going into grades 7, 8, and 9 are invited to participate in service projects within our church and community. The day will begin between 8 and 9 AM with a light breakfast, lunch will be served, and the day will end at 4 PM. Projects include making art for the pantry and freshening up the youth room, working in the community garden, reading or playing board games with the elderly, and more. We know families with children this age are often very busy in the summer. Participation is encouraged on whatever days and times fit your schedule. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Desk or you can call/email the church office to let us know you'll be attending. Contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org with any questions.

Lutheran Collaborative VBS (All free!)

Held at Luther Memorial Church

1031 Sunset Trail (61st St. & Western Ave.)

July 20-23

Preschool (potty trained) to Grade 5

5:15 PM: Family Meal

6-8 PM: Programming

This year, we are going on a "Road Trip with God". Our studies will be based off of the Bible verse Joshua 1:9 – "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Join us as we discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together. Register or volunteer by using the QR code or link below. If you have questions/concerns, please contact Kristin Boe (kristin@kmlchurch.org) or Pastor Becky (402-740-1985 or pastorbecky@lord-of-love.org).
<https://luthermemorial.mycokesburyvbs.com/>



VBS

offered before and after lunch. Quilt donations can be delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp between June 1 and July 21. Quilts cannot be accepted after July 21. Please submit in a plastic bag with donation form that can found at:

www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction

Nursery Volunteers Needed!

We are seeking volunteers to help provide occasional care for our children in the nursery. Volunteers are willing to be contacted when our regular nursery staff are out of town or otherwise unavailable. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our youngest members, making a positive impact in their lives and in the lives of their families! Duties include playing with children, changing diapers, and providing a warm and loving environment. Training will be provided. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact our Nursery Director Shannon Picha at nursery@kmlchurch.org.

Kountze Food Pantry

Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is in need of your gifts and service. **The current needs this week for the pantry are cereal, vegetable oil, and spices.** You may leave your donation in the box marked "Food Pantry," located in the Fellowship Hall. Tax deductible slips are available on the inside pocket of the box. Please join us as a volunteer in the pantry in the Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. You are welcome to volunteer as it fits your schedule. We have options for volunteers of all abilities. Please use the link or QR code to sign up and join our mission.

<https://tinyurl.com/uausdddp>



Pantry

Carol Joy Holling Camp 37th Annual Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 26, 2025

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Carol Joy Holling Camp

It's time to think about the quilt you'll donate to Carol Joy Holling Camp. The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts. It is held rain or shine. Friends and families are welcome. Our kitchen will be serving pulled pork sandwiches and a selection of favorite salads from 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM. Vegetarian and gluten-free options are available upon request. Concessions will be



Quilt Auction

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, May 15—Wednesday, May 21

Saturday: 27

Sunday: 9:00: 174 11:00: 94

Wednesday: 12:15: 9

Total: 304

Streaming: 52

Pantry Guests Served: 156 (inc. 30 children) (Friday only)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 17

Offering: Not available at time of printing

The Holy Spirit will teach Jesus' followers.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 14:23-29	The sending of the Counselor
Monday	Acts 16:9-15	Paul travels to Macedonia
Tuesday	Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5	River of life
Wednesday	Numbers 6:22-27	Blessing for the people
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11	Jesus is taken up to heaven
Friday	Hebrews 12:14-17	Life in peace
Saturday	Psalms 67	Tell the nations to praise God
Sunday	John 17:20-26	Jesus prays for his disciples



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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.'" **John 14:23 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Ever-present God, your love and peace never end; we thank you for your promise to be with us always, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtimes Prayer:

Come Holy Spirit, on us to rest, our table to grace, and our food to bless. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's face shine upon you. (Psalm 67:1)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- ☐ Who is one of your favorite teachers?
- ☐ Jesus said the Holy Spirit would teach his followers. How do think that would happen?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 14:23-29.

Jesus promises that he and his Heavenly Father will make a home with Jesus' disciples. That home is based on a love between Jesus, his Father, and the followers of Jesus. Disciples of Jesus do not simply receive a message from Jesus as though they are learning a lesson in school. Jesus' message teaches followers about a love relationship with Jesus that gives them the Heavenly Father and leads them into the world with peace and hope, not fear and anxiety. Jesus' disciples were understandably worried because they have just learned that Jesus is leaving them. Jesus' response to their fears and anxieties is that they will receive the Holy Spirit who will teach them all they need to know, everything that Jesus has taught them. It is a way to promise an ongoing relationship with Jesus. When we feel lost or alone, Jesus' words are a love letter that brings us comfort and confidence as his followers.

Discuss: How can Jesus comfort you and give you peace when you feel lost or alone?

Pray: **Gracious God, we thank you for your loving presence that promises us peace and confidence in place of our fears and anxieties through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help a person when they feel afraid or troubled?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Numbers 6:24-26 is a traditional benediction many recognize: *"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."* Psalm 67 is very similar. A Benediction is a prayer offering God's help and protection. Benediction means *"good word"* and is also called a blessing. This week practice a ritual blessing every night before closing your eyes.

Say: **May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us.** (Psalm 67:1)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26